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## raleigh arts flash

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## 2010 Medal of Arts Recipients Announced!

Six individuals have been selected to receive the 2010 Raleigh Medal of Arts, the City's highest arts honor. **The Raleigh Medal of Arts is awarded for lifetime extraordinary achievement in the practice of, or in support of, local arts.**



This year's recipients are Ruth Green, community arts advocate and owner of the Little Art Gallery; William Ivey Long, five-time Tony award-winning Broadway costume designer; Nancy Olson, literary arts promoter and owner of Quail Ridge Books and Music; Dwane Powell, nationally recognized editorial cartoonist; J. Mark Searce, renowned classical composer; and Banks C. Talley, Jr., long-time Raleigh cultural arts leader.

**The Medal of Arts ceremony will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.** in Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. Betty Ray McCain, former Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, will serve as mistress of ceremonies. The ceremony, featuring special guests and performances, is free and open to the public on a first-come, first served basis. For more info, [click here](#).

## City of Raleigh 2010-2011 Arts Grants

**Thirty-six grants totaling \$1,487,700 will be distributed to Raleigh-based non-profit organizations** to support programs ranging from traditional music concerts (produced by PineCone), low-cost music lessons for young people (Community Music School), and the Raleigh Street Painting Festival and year-round visual art exhibitions (Visual Art Exchange). The Raleigh Arts Grant program is currently funded through a \$4.50 per capita allocation.



*Artsposure, photo courtesy of Michael Zirkle*

This year marks the highest amount in requested grants the Arts

Commission has received in its 23-year grant program history. The increase in grants requests is indicative of the growing number and increasing size of arts organizations in Raleigh.

"The City of Raleigh Arts Grant program has been critical to the development and ongoing success of many of Raleigh's cultural groups, making it possible for organizations like Artsposure to have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of people each year," Michael Lowder, Executive Director of Artsposure stated. "We are very fortunate to have such a forward-thinking grants program in place especially at this time given that public demand for high quality and accessible arts programs continues to outpace supply," he added.

To learn more about the local organizations receiving arts grants, [click to visit the grants page on the Arts Commission website.](#)

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## Piedmont Laureate Words of the Month

"... In the morning, Ella Mae announced, "We going to church," to which I replied. "Oh Lord!" and slightly tortured laughter erupted from my throat; and then the hook:

"I'monna let you drive." My eyes and my smile grew wide and I figured the disgrace of going to church would be worth the stories I could tell Jamella, about driving a truck all over Starkville.

I dressed in the awkward skirt and sweater and sat on the bed while I waited for Ella Mae to get dressed. I wouldn't be able to wait until Monday to tell Jamella, so I opened my note-book journal and wrote a surrogate conversation with my big brother."



Zelda Lockhart,  
photo courtesy of  
Brooke Cain

To read more of Piedmont Laureate Zelda Lockhart's excerpt from Part One of her new novel, *Fifth Born II: The Hundredth Turtle*, released last month, please visit [www.piedmontlaureate.com](http://www.piedmontlaureate.com).

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## Block Gallery *over/under*

*Over/under* brings the textural paintings of Kristan Five and Eduardo Lapetina and the haunting photography of Lizz Thabet to the municipal building Block Gallery, Aug. 5 - Sept. 20. Permeating throughout the work is an examination and exploration of human identity. **The opening reception for *over/under* is August 5, from 5-7 p.m.**, with 2010 Piedmont Laureate Zelda Lockhart reading from her new book, *Fifth Born II: The Hundredth Turtle* at 6 p.m.

During *over/under*, Block2 Street Video Series features Lincoln Hancock & Miles Holst's film, *Radios Appear*. Block2 Street Video Series, curated by Neill Prewitt, airs dusk to 2 a.m. in the window of Urban Design Center (133 Fayetteville St.). An additional screening of Hancock & Holst's film will be held at Block Gallery (222 W. Hargett St.) at the opening night reception.



"The Glowing  
Fragments of the  
Moving City II"  
by Lapetina  
Eduardo

Block Gallery's current exhibition, ***earth/sky***, featuring the work of

Gene Furr, Anna Podris, and Bill Wallace (Block2 showing Irene Moon's film) runs through July 26.

*Photos below (l-r): Block Gallery **over/under** exhibition images: "Actually it's not 2" by Kristan Five, "Text Driving" by Kristan Five, and "Ascending Light Pierces the Old Mysteries" by Lapetina Eduardo.*



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